

Railroad Clearances and Walkways in Private Rail Yards and Plants

WAC 296-860-100

Scope

IMPORTANT:

This chapter applies to all railroad clearances and walkways in rail yards and plants including logging railroad yards such as mill yards, maintenance yards and sorting yards.

If you are uncertain about which WISHA requirements to follow, you must comply with those that best protect employees' safety and health. Contact your local L&I office if you need assistance in making this decision.



Exemptions:

- These exemptions apply to chapter 296-860 WAC, Railroad clearances and walkways in private rail yards and plants, and don't require a department variance:
 - You may move the following equipment, using less than the minimum standard clearances, if the situation is unavoidable and you have taken all reasonable steps to protect your employees:
 - Track construction or maintenance materials
 - Special work equipment used for railroad construction, maintenance or operations
 - Any railroad equipment during emergencies.
 - You may have overhead or side clearances less than the minimum standard clearances required in this chapter if they were legally created before April 3, 1961.

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Scope

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Scope (Continued)



Note:

- If a building, structure, or facility constructed before April 3, 1961, is relocated or reconstructed, the clearance requirements in this chapter apply unless the department grants a variance.
 - Tracks built before April 3, 1961:
 - May be extended according to the legal track clearance requirements in effect when they were originally constructed
 - Are exempt from the track clearance requirements in WAC 296-860-10050, Table 5.
 - Chapter 296-54 WAC, Safety standards—Logging operations, regulates all logging railroads or any rail operations related to logging, except for yard clearances.